(b) whether the height and weight are prescribed as an eligibility condition for admission;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to change the above eligibility criteria as it require modifications on par with developed community and made it viable with the existing social structure; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) According to the Indian Nursing Council, there are no stipulations regarding marital status, height or weight of the candidates for admission to a nursing course. The candidates should, however, be medically fit.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Injectable contraceptives for women

1964. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government are thinking of introducing hormonal injectable contraceptives for women like Neten, Depo provera, etc.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how effective is the above contraceptives, when compared to other existing ones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Both injectable contraception Net-en and Depo provera has been given marketing permission since 1986 and 1993 respectively on the prescription of a physician. However, the Government of India has not taken any decision to introduce the hormonal injectable contraceptives for women into the National Family Welfare Programme.

(c) The injectable contraceptives are comparable in effectiveness to combined oral pills, CuT 380 A, IUD and voluntary sterilization.